



# The City Source

June 2002



## Open Letter to Citizens: Your Tax Dollars and City Employee Medical Benefits

Dear Citizens,

You may have read recent news reports about some of the changes the City of Lynchburg has taken regarding medical benefits for City employees. As you know, the City of Lynchburg uses tax dollars to fund employee salaries and benefits, which are critical tools for attracting and retaining a qualified work force. You, the citizens of Lynchburg, hold us accountable for using your money wisely.

While medical coverage is one of the most important benefits for employees, retirees and their families, it is also one of the most expensive, costing about \$5.8 million this year. The City of Lynchburg is a self-insured organization that sets aside money from general revenues to provide medical coverage at no cost to the individual employee. Employees may include their family members by contributing monthly payments. Retirees are also covered by the

City's medical plan and pay a nominal monthly contribution of \$14.80.

The City, like all employers, is faced with drastically higher costs for medical services and prescription drugs. In July, employees and retirees will share the impact of rising costs more than ever before. Changes to the plan will include: increased deductibles, increased member co-payment for prescription drugs, mail order service required for maintenance medications (after the first four months) and reimbursement based on generic equivalents when available.

Though these changes will be difficult for some, this will help the City avoid a 12% rate increase while shifting some of the costs to plan members who use the services more often.

Most City employees and retirees understand the need for sharing the burden of cost increases and we trust that the citizens of Lynchburg appreciate our efforts to be good stewards of your tax dollars.

## Brush and Bulk Pickup Service

### One Call Does It All For City Residents!

Just call 856-CITY for your brush and bulk pickup requests. Phone calls are taken week-days from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. After you call and receive a scheduled brush and bulk pickup date, place your brush and bulk items on the curb in front of your residence. Please place items out the day before your scheduled pickup, since the crew might come as early as 7:00 a.m. on your scheduled day.

There are certain things you can do to better prepare your brush and bulk items prior to your scheduled pickup. Please keep the following in mind:

- Keep brush and bulk items separate.
- Brush items include twigs and branches (*excluding piles of leaves*).
- Bulk items include furniture, appliances, televisions, etc.
- Place items on the curb in front of your residence. Do not put items near trees or telephone poles.
- Break up brush and bundle it into pieces less than 8 ft. long. Limbs should be no larger than 3 in. diameter.
- Make sure bulk items are not too large (*at least two people should be able to carry the items*).
- Freon items, such as air conditioners, refrigerators and freezers, are required by law to be kept separate from other

bulk items and picked up on Wednesdays ONLY.

- Leaves are only picked up on designated dates and times during the fall season. If you need to dispose of leaves during another time of the year, just bag and tag them and leave them on the curb for scheduled trash pickup days.



**NOTE: LEAVES ARE NOT eligible for brush and bulk collection. Please call 856-CITY for seasonal leaf pick-up dates.**

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION DAY!

For All  
Lynchburg  
Residents



**Date:** Sat., June 8

**Hours:** 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Waste Management Facility (Landfill) on Concord Turnpike

**Other HHW 2002 Collection Dates:** August 10 and October 12

**PLEASE NOTE: You must bring photo identification with you! Bring household hazardous items in non-returnable containers! Remember, this collection does not count as your one free trip per month to the landfill.**

**What is a Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Collection Day?**

A household hazardous waste collection day is an opportunity for citizens to properly dispose of material which should not be put in landfills due to their toxicity or potential for pollution of ground water.

**What CAN you bring to the collection site?**

Acids/Bases  
Aerosols  
Antifreeze  
Auto starter  
Brake Fluids  
Batteries  
Cleaners  
Corrosives  
Drain Openers  
Flammables  
Furniture Stripper  
Herbicides  
Kerosene  
Lighter Fluids  
Oven Cleaners  
Oxidizers  
Oil Base Paint  
Pesticides  
Photo Chemicals  
Polishes  
Pool Chemicals  
Poisons  
Solvents  
Thinners  
Used Motor Oil  
Weed Killers  
Wood Preservatives

**What NOT to bring to the collection site!**

Agent Orange  
Ammunition  
Dioxin  
Explosives  
Garbage  
Gas Cylinders  
Kepone  
Latex Paint  
Liquified Asbestos  
Medical Waste  
Oil Tanks  
Pathological Waste  
55 Gallon Drums of Anything!  
PCBs  
PROWL  
Prozine  
Radioactives (i.e., smoke detectors)  
Recyclables  
Silvex  
Stomp  
TCDD

## 4th Annual Water Quality Reports Available!

Lynchburg utility customers will be receiving the Fourth Annual Water Quality Report in June water bills. Copies of the report may also be picked up at one of the following locations: Lynchburg Public Library (both locations: Plaza and Downtown), City Hall at the Information Desk and the Utilities Division's main office located at 525 Taylor Street. You may also view the report on the City's web site, [www.lynchburgva.gov](http://www.lynchburgva.gov). The City of Lynchburg is proud of the fine drinking water it provides. The annual water quality report shows the source of our water, lists the results of our tests and contains important information about water. We are happy to show you how we have surpassed water quality standards. Should you have any questions, please contact Leslie Gryder, Utilities, at 847-1322.

## PUBLIC MEETINGS

### Historic Monument Terrace

The City of Lynchburg will hold its second meeting to discuss the plans for restoring the historic Monument Terrace. Come learn about the plans to stabilize, restore and enhance this beautiful monument. For additional information, call the Department of Engineering at 847-1360.

**Tuesday, June 4, 7:00 p.m.**

Second Floor Training Room, City Hall.

### Draft Comprehensive Plan

The following meetings will be held to review the City's Draft Comprehensive Plan. For further information about meeting times or places, please contact: Judith Wiegand, Strategic Planner, 847-1508, ext. 236.

**Wednesday, June 12, 7:00 p.m.**

**Citizen Steering Committee.** Community Meeting Room. Lynchburg Public Library, 2315 Memorial Avenue.

**Wednesday, June 26, 7:00 p.m.**

**Planning Commission.** Second Floor Training Room, City Hall.

**Tuesday, August 13, 7:30 p.m.**

**City Council.** Council Chambers, City Hall.

**For more information about Lynchburg City services, visit our web site at [www.lynchburgva.gov](http://www.lynchburgva.gov)**